

ToolLink – Data. Sourcing. Simplified.

Tool data acquisition and enrichment on demand

Toolmanagement

ToolLink is software-as-a-service for manufacturing companies

- in need of digital twins of cutting tools
- with requirements that go beyond what ToolsUnited may provide

ToolLink transfers the concept of VMI (vendor managed inventory) to the digital factory.

We call it **Vendor Managed Tool Data**.

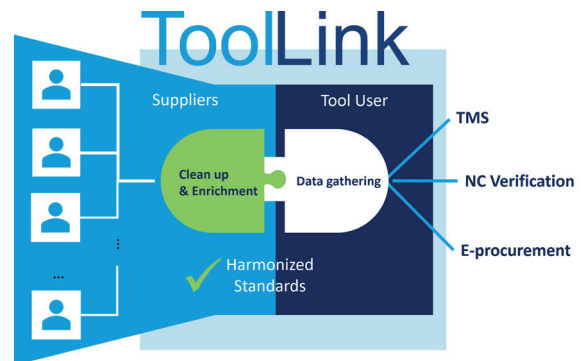
Gathering product data from suppliers is a time-consuming and tedious process that puts pressure on the relationship between you and your suppliers. Although companies try to benefit from international data standards and to involve their suppliers in the enrichment process, success is limited for various reasons.

To simplify this process CIMSOURCE provides ToolLink, a Supplier Portal that allows suppliers of any size to add or update data directly on demand, without sending countless of Excel sheets back and forth. One single communication channel based on harmonized standards between you and your suppliers will simplify the data supply chain.

To improve the experience even more, ToolLink places the clean up & enrichment process into the hands of the suppliers and provides a way to validate product information before it is send to your company. This means that you will not have to deal with information that is not compliant with your company's requirements.

Fair sourcing based on standards

Suppliers receive the data requests based on valid standards. The supplier accesses the "supply side" of ToolLink. Input wizards will support the suppliers that are unfamiliar with the standards of DIN and ISO. Data entry may be done by the suppliers either interactively via the user interface or as mass data import via Excel or XML.



Audited data quality

Pre-configured data checkers validate if the data provided comply with conformity classes, graphics standards and mandatory data fields. After you perform a final visual check, you may release the data for use in your downstream systems (tool management, NC-verification,...).

Data security

ToolLink will be configured as cloud-application. ToolLink will operate in a secure/local computer center near you that can be accessed only by you and your suppliers.

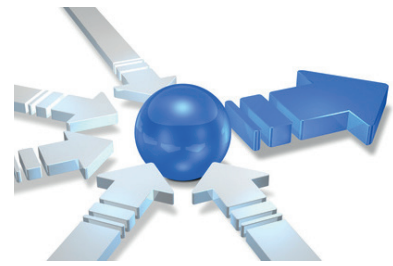
ToolLink provides

- Simplified tool data gathering- and enrichment process
- Improved data quality compliant with international standards
- Integrated access to the ToolsUnited database
- Workflow engine for direct & accountable supplier communication
- Interactive wizard for suppliers that are not familiar with the standards



100 % Tooldata – switch to Vendor Managed Tool Data now!





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The functional scope of ToolLink is divided into two perspectives:

Supplier Perspective

Log-in screen for ToolLink in a separate area. Privacy mechanisms ensure that each supplier can only see their own data.

Data input wizard

Each supplier can choose which standard they want to use to maintain their data. The name of the required standard including its explanation is displayed. The data can be entered or corrected through the user interface. Mass data processing via Excel is also a possibility.

Privacy controller

The supplier can decide whether they want to provide the data “only” for the respective customer’s ToolLink or also for the public ToolsUnited database.

History tracker

The supplier can update, supplement or amend its data at any time. For each data record (tool item) ToolLink maintains the change history.

Tool User Perspective

These features are used to specify and manage data requirements.

Supplier Administration

Manage supplier contact information, including pre-populated emails for efficient communication.

Data requirement determination

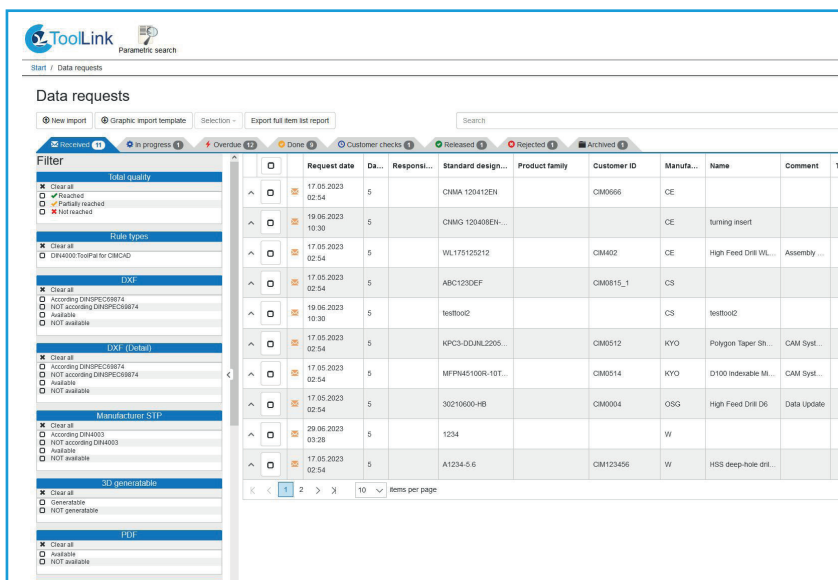
Upload function for Excel lists with the required tool items (gross demand). ToolLink matches the data requests with the content of ToolsUnited. Items that are not found in the ToolsUnited database or do not otherwise meet the quality requirements are subject to sourcing (net demand) from the respective suppliers.

Special tools handling

For non-standard tools (tools that may not be specified using DIN or ISO properties), the geometric data is requested in standard formats (STEP; DXF) and checked for conformity with DIN/ISO.

Workflow engine

Keeps track of data requests and deliveries. Open and closed requests are shown and the status of requests in progress is managed.



Request date	Respons.	Standard design	Product family	Customer ID	Manufa...	Name	Comment
17.05.2023 02:54	5	CHMA 120412EN		CIM0666	CE		
19.06.2023 10:30	5	CHMG 120408EN			CE	tuning insert	
17.05.2023 02:54	5	WL17512312		CIM402	CE	High Feed Dril WL...	Assembly ...
17.05.2023 02:54	5	ABC123DEF		CIM0815_1	CS		
19.05.2023 10:30	5	test002			CS	test002	
17.05.2023 02:54	5	KPC3-DDJL2205		CIM0512	KYO	Polygon Taper Sh...	CAM Syst...
17.05.2023 02:54	5	MFPH45100R-10T...		CIM0514	KYO	D100 Indexable M...	CAM Syst...
17.05.2023 02:54	5	30210600-HB		CIM0004	OSG	High Feed Dril D6	Data Update
29.06.2023 03:28	5	1234			W		
17.05.2023 02:54	5	A1234-5.6		CIM123456	W	HSS deep-hole dril...	

Data quality monitoring

A data checker checks the data for consistency using the quality guidelines specified by the user. 2D and 3D graphics are also checked. In cases where requirements are not met, ToolLink rejects the data record. The respective supplier receives an error log and a guideline of what needs to be amended to pass the quality gate.

Check routine maintenance

ToolLink provides standard rule sets to import data according to DIN/ISO and specific rule sets for different target systems (Tool Management, CAM, NC-verification). Any requirement that goes beyond the scope of these rule sets may be specified using the rule editor.